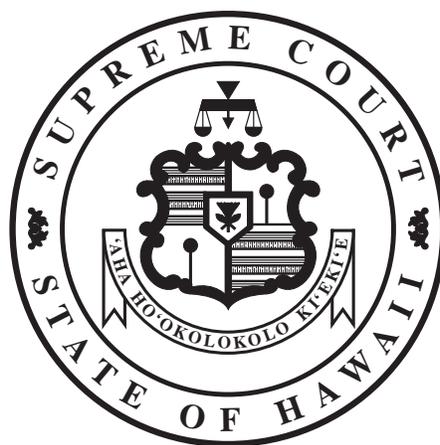

The Judiciary State of Hawai‘i



Annual Report
July 1, 1997 to June 30, 1998

The mission of the Judiciary, as an independent branch of government, is to administer justice in an impartial, efficient, and accessible manner in accordance with the law.

I am pleased to present to you the Judiciary's 1998 Annual Report detailing the work of Hawaii's third branch of government.

As the report demonstrates, the people who work in the courts strive each day to meet the mission of the Judiciary. I am very proud of the work that they do and extend my thanks and appreciation to each and every one of the justices, judges, court employees, and the many volunteers of the State of Hawai'i Judiciary. It is my privilege to report the results of their efforts to you.

I also acknowledge the critical assistance that the Legislature has provided the Judiciary in supporting our budgetary needs and legislative initiatives. The work reflected in this Annual Report would not have been possible without the Legislature's support and cooperation.



Ronald T.Y. Moon
Chief Justice
Hawai'i Supreme Court

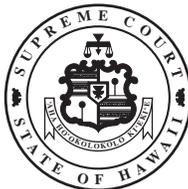
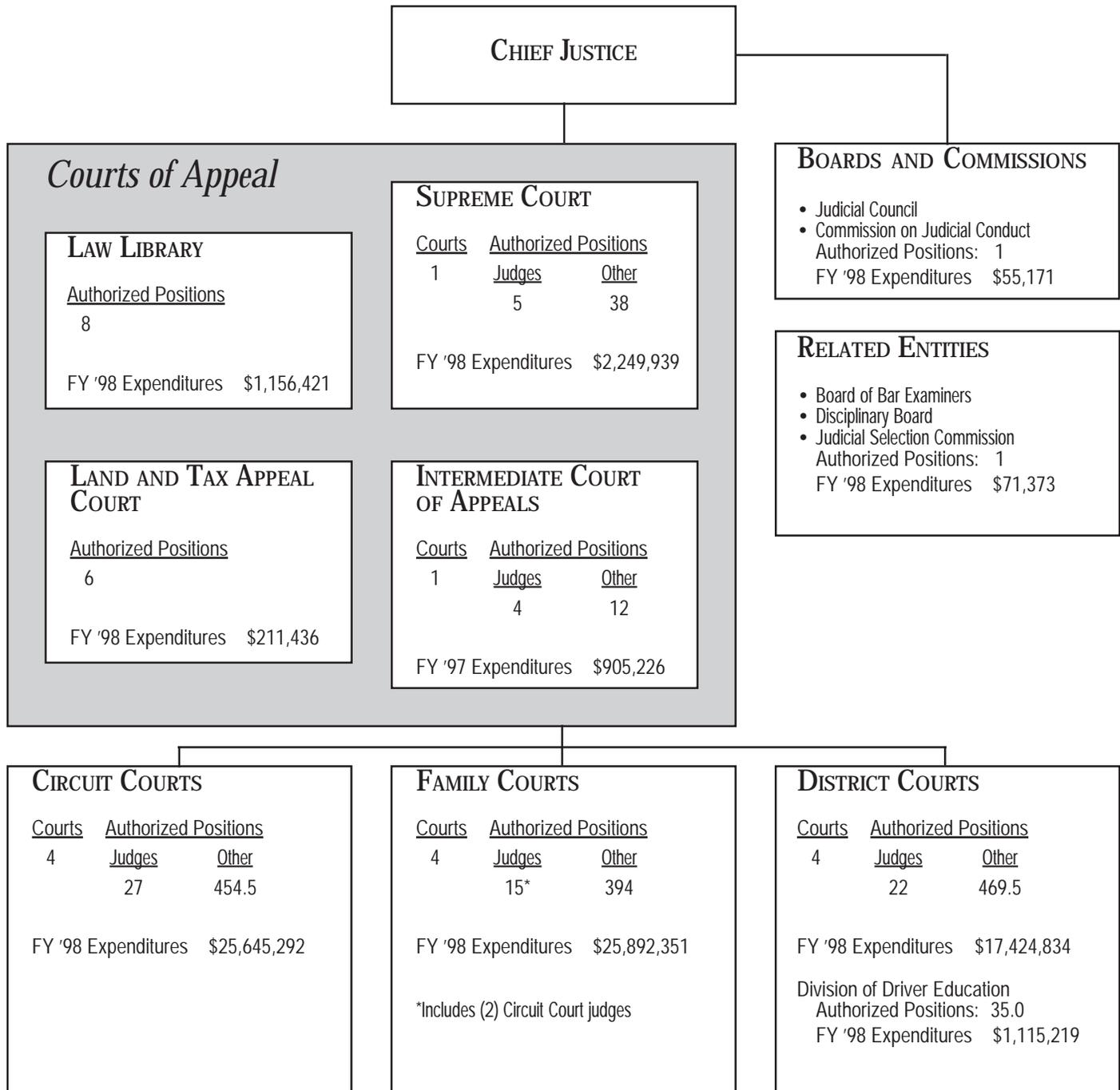


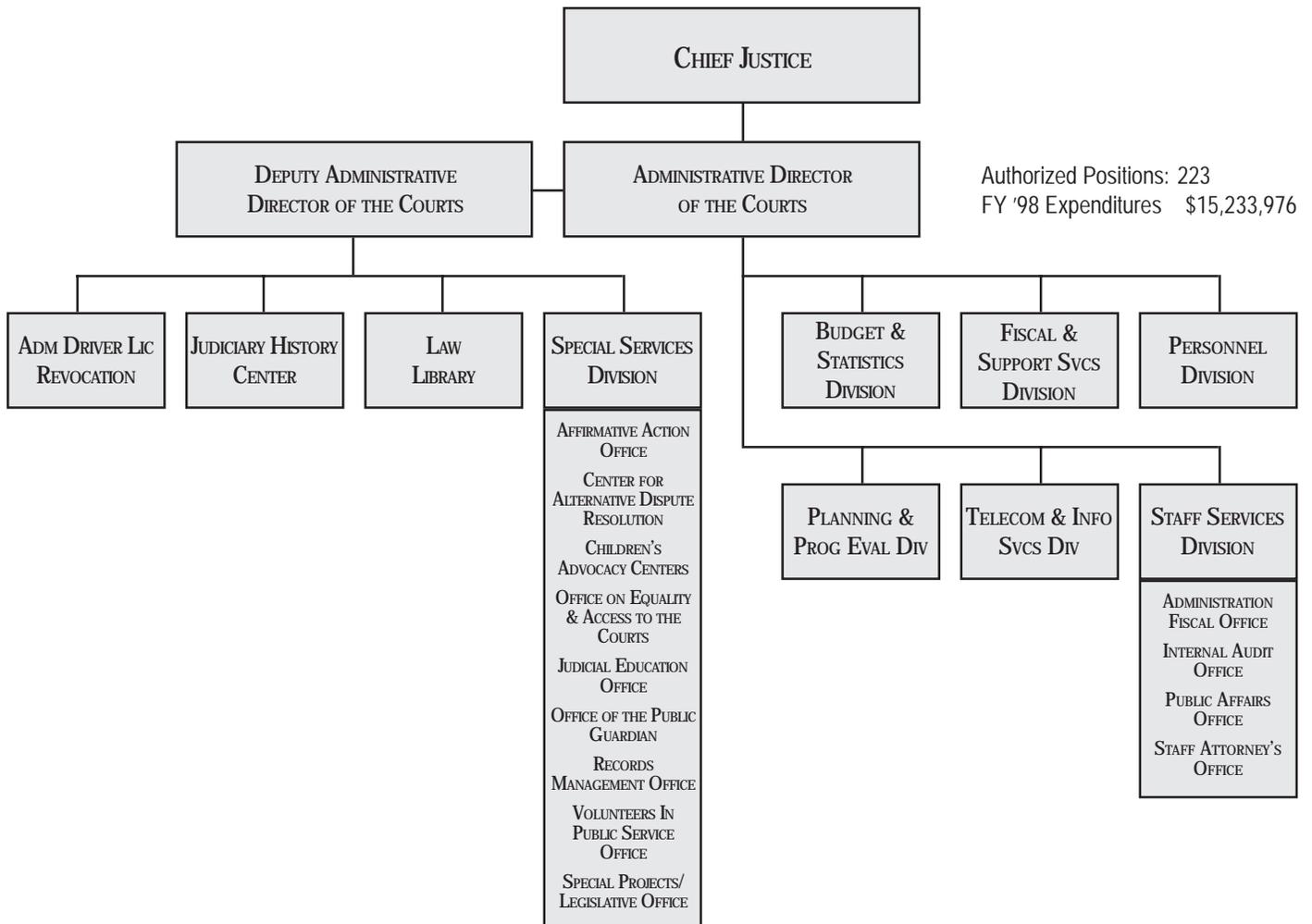
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Structure of the Court System



Structure of the Office of the Administrative Director of the Courts



1999 Legislative Priorities

JUDICIAL SALARY INCREASE

The Judiciary's request for an appropriate increase in the level of compensation for state judges will again be a critical priority this year. The request is premised on the belief that compensation should be commensurate with the responsibilities, experience, and qualifications required of a judge in order to attract and retain the most qualified and competent men and women for Hawaii's Judiciary.

In a recent report submitted to the Legislature, the Judicial Salary Commission, an impartial, non-partisan agency, concluded that Hawaii's justices, judges, and appointed administrative officers are significantly undercompensated. The Commission recommended a salary increase of 27 percent, distributed in equal increments over three fiscal years, retroactive to July 1, 1997. Hawaii is now the only state in the nation which has not increased the salary of its judges for the last eight years.

In a previous report commissioned by the Legislature, the Legislative Reference Bureau, another impartial, non-partisan agency, also concluded that Hawaii's judges are significantly underpaid relative to jurists in other states, on the federal bench, and attorneys in private practice.

BIENNIUM BUDGET (FB 1999-2001 BIENNIUM)

Approval of the Judiciary's 1999-2001 biennium budget request is a top legislative priority.

The Judiciary's budget request includes a general fund request of \$92.1 million for FY 2000 and \$92.2 million for FY 2001. For the two-year period, the request is within the projected expenditure ceiling.

Sensitive to the economic situation facing the State, the Judiciary has followed a conservative approach in developing its budget, and the biennium budget addresses only the Judiciary's most pressing needs.

These include a request to establish Drug Court as a permanent program of the Circuit Court and two judgeships (one in each year) for the Family Courts.

The Judiciary is also requesting to add a second Circuit Court judge for Kaua'i, and a limited number of staff positions and technology upgrades, including a request to proceed with a software application which supports the Executive Branch initiative in the human resources area. Security within the courts also remains a high priority and is reflected in the budget.

ADDITIONAL JUDGES

Two Family Court judgeships, one for the Third Circuit and one for the First Circuit, are requested to provide intensified case resolution and to continue the one judge, one family concept in child abuse and neglect cases. These judgeships will also help reduce the Family Court's heavy reliance on per diem judges. A requested Circuit Court judgeship for Kaua'i will address both Circuit and Family Court matters. A second Circuit Court judgeship for Kaua'i has been a critical need for a number of years.

SUPPORT STAFF

In addition to the three judgeships being requested, the Judiciary is seeking to establish the Drug Court as a permanent program of the Circuit Courts. This action includes the conversion of 14 temporary positions to permanent status.

The need for additional staff support in the courts statewide has been building to a high level as demand for service outstrips the Judiciary's ability to support the public's need. Consequently, the Judiciary is requesting a limited number of new staff positions.

TECHNOLOGY UPGRADES

Another area where the Judiciary clearly must make major improvements is in technology support. All of the major system applications are antiquated and are in need of replacement. The Legislature has been of great assistance in establishing the Computer Special Fund, which will provide the support

necessary to address a large segment of this problem. However, the Judiciary has extensive infrastructure problems which need to be addressed.

COURT SECURITY

The Judiciary, with the help of the Legislature, has taken major steps to address security concerns in the last half of the 1990s. During this session, the Judiciary is seeking an appropriation for additional private security guard positions and for surveillance equipment for courts on the island of Hawai'i.

Despite their best efforts, the inability of the current staff of the Sheriff's Division to provide needed security services for the courts has been an on-going cause of concern and frustration for both the Judiciary and the Department of Public Safety. Therefore, the Judiciary will continue to work with the Department of Public Safety in securing additional deputy sheriff positions.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

The Judiciary is moving forward on a number of new and existing court facilities. The Judiciary's Capital Improvement Project (CIP) budget provides funds for ongoing, as well as future, requirements. Our request includes funds for construction of a Kaua'i Judiciary Complex, removal of architectural barriers at existing Judiciary facilities (for compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act), and improvements to Hoapili Hale on Maui.

Also requested are funds for several new projects, including: 1) the Ho'okele Court Navigation Project, a pilot program to establish customer service and information counters at the main courthouses in downtown Honolulu; 2) interior alterations to District Court offices at the Hilo State Office Building, which will address current crowded conditions; and 3) backup emergency power systems for the Judiciary computer center on O'ahu, which also services the judicial circuits on the other islands.

The final item included under CIP requests is for the ongoing remodeling and upgrading of Judiciary buildings statewide.

HO'okele COURT NAVIGATION PROGRAM

Each year, thousands of people in need of information and assistance enter Hawaii's courthouses. Many of these court users are confused about which court or program in the building will handle their matter. In Family and District Courts, a large number of litigants who are without attorneys struggle with court procedures and forms.

To better serve the public, the Judiciary designed the proposed Ho'okele Court Navigation Program that would consist of a Court Concierge Desk and a Customer Service Center. The Court Concierge Desks would assist all court users at the courthouse entrance, and Customer Service Centers in Family and District Courts would provide procedural information and personalized assistance. The Judiciary is seeking to implement Ho'okele in the First Judicial Circuit and is requesting funds for capital improvements and for staffing during a pilot period.

ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION

The Judiciary continues its commitment to helping parties resolve their disputes as fairly, quickly, and efficiently as possible. To effect its mission, the Judiciary offers alternative dispute resolution (ADR) programs at all levels of court. One such program, the appellate mediation program, enjoys continued success; approximately 50% of the cases that go through this program result in settlement. Mediation continues to be offered at no charge to the participants.

This year, the Judiciary seeks Legislative support to fund a full-time Research Analyst position with the Center for Alternative Dispute Resolution. A full-time Research Analyst will enable the Center to continue its mission to provide the people of Hawai'i with neutral alternative dispute resolution processes that provide opportunities for early, party-driven, efficient and fair resolution of conflicts.

1999 Legislative Priorities

1998 Program Highlights

COURT IMPROVEMENT PROCESS INITIATIVE

Although the Hawai'i State Judiciary is considered a national leader in many areas, there have been changes in the social, demographic, economic, cultural, and technological conditions in Hawai'i which have dramatically changed the nature and scope of problems that the Judiciary is asked to resolve. For this reason, in 1998, Chief Justice Ronald Moon and the Administrative Director of the Courts Michael Broderick initiated a plan to systematically and thoroughly evaluate and review the Judiciary's structure, procedures, and scope of functions. The process was intended to produce a "plan for the future" to increase efficiency, reduce duplication, produce cost savings, and generate revenue.

In building its "plan for the future," the Judiciary solicited input from employees, court users, and the public concerning the structure of the Judiciary, court operations, and the delivery of court services. From that information, building blocks for change were developed, which will result in a package of recommendations and a proposed implementation plan to be delivered to the Chief Justice at the end of February 1999.

JURY INNOVATIONS FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

In 1998, Chief Justice Moon convened the Hawai'i Committee on Jury Innovations for the 21st Century to study alternatives for enhancing the functioning of the jury system in Hawaii's courts. The Committee also was authorized to implement a 15-month pilot project whereby six judges were permitted to modify certain jury trial procedures. Among the modifications were: allowing jurors in civil and criminal cases to ask questions of parties and witnesses, pre-instructing jurors on relevant points of law, allowing jurors to discuss the evidence in civil trials before the end of the presentation of evidence, and allowing jurors to take notes during trial. The

Committee also received community input through three public meetings; written comments; a live, call-in program on 'Olelo (O'ahu's public-access television station); and surveys of judges, attorneys, and jurors who participated in the pilot project. The Committee will submit its recommendations to the Chief Justice in January 1999.

A separate study conducted by a subcommittee of the Committee resulted in a recommendation that §612-6, HRS, be amended by deleting all exemptions to jury service except for jurors who have served within the last year. In making its recommendation, the Committee found that the majority of states have two or fewer juror exemptions. In contrast, Hawai'i allows 12 exemptions. According to the American Bar Association, "The opportunity for jury service should not be denied or limited on the basis of ... occupation, or any other factor that discriminates against a cognizable group in the jurisdiction."

Another recommendation the committee will submit is to increase traveling expense compensation for jurors from 33¢ to 37¢ per mile.

IBM/SEER PROJECT SPEEDS FAMILY COURT PROCESS

In the Spring of 1998, Maui's Family Court launched a project with IBM Corporation and SEER Technologies to increase efficiency in the court. Utilizing custom-made software and hardware configurations, the Family Court is now able to provide court documents to parties immediately following their court proceeding. This new process effectively eliminates the extra work and time involved with the normal 2-3 day delay in routing documents and obtaining signatures from court officials and other parties after the proceeding.

1998 Program Highlights

VIDEOS HELP PARTIES AND DEFENDANTS THROUGH SMALL CLAIMS AND TRAFFIC COURT PROCEDURES

Two new informational videos were developed to provide information to the public about the small claims and traffic court processes. The District Courts, statewide, process approximately 490,000 traffic citations and 5,500 small claims actions per year.

The videos are captioned for the hearing impaired and are dubbed into Ilocano (a Filipino dialect) and Korean. The videos air on public access television stations statewide and Korean and Filipino-language television stations on O'ahu. They are also shown in the courthouses, loaned to community organizations and low-income legal service providers, and are available through public libraries.



Cast and crew work to develop two new informational videos focusing on Small Claims and Traffic Court procedures.

“TOLL-FREE” INFORMATION LINE ASSISTS THOUSANDS

Members of the public on the islands of Maui, Hawai'i, and Kaua'i can call the Judiciary's Public Affairs Office on O'ahu for information without incurring long-distance telephone charges. The new “toll-free” telephone numbers provide streamlined assistance to court users and reduce the

amount of staff time spent helping callers identify the correct office to handle their inquiry. The phone numbers are: 244-2823 for Maui, 961-7436 for Hawai'i, and 246-3319 for Kaua'i.

HAWAII APPELLATE CONFERENCE PROGRAM CITED AS MODEL FOR OTHER JURISDICTIONS

In the Council of State Governments published report, *Managing for Success: A Profile of State Government for the 21st Century*, the Hawai'i Appellate Conference Program was cited as a model for other jurisdictions. The report, which is the first of its kind to chronicle in detail how state officials are reinventing government, helps policy-makers in every state consider new and exemplary practices to make state government successful and efficient.

The Hawai'i Appellate Conference Program was developed and is administered by the Judiciary's Center for Alternative Dispute Resolution. Since its inception, statistics show that over 50 percent of the cases handled by the program settled either in whole or in part.

JUDICIARY WEBSITE EXPANDS

The Judiciary's website continues to add new features: published opinions of the Hawai'i Supreme Court and Intermediate Court of Appeals, amendments to court rules, Circuit Court administrative orders, request for proposals and bid information for vendors, and webpages for the Judiciary History Center and Center for Alternative Dispute Resolution.

Appellate Court opinions filed since January 1, 1998 are posted within 48 hours of their filing date and are available in full-text.

Official orders amending Hawai'i Rules of Court, issued after May 15, 1998, are available in full-text. Orders issued prior to May 15, 1998 have been incorporated in the Rules published by Book Publishing Company, LEXIS Law Publishing, and West Group.

1998 Program Highlights

Circuit Court administrative orders are available for review and copying on the Judiciary’s website. Effective July 1, 1998, the administrative orders cancelled all prior administrative orders and memoranda issued by current and/or previous circuit court administrative judges.

Jobs available on a bid or request for proposal basis are now available on the website for vendors wanting to sell goods and services to the Judiciary. Additionally, the site provides an overview of the structure and process of purchasing in the Hawai‘i State Judiciary, information on tax clearances, notices and other fiscal announcements.

HAWAI‘I DRUG COURT RECEIVES GRANT

In 1998, the Hawai‘i Drug Court program received a \$300,000 grant from the United States Department of Justice to expand services into the community and study the feasibility of replicating the drug court model statewide.

Hawai‘i Drug Court officials are currently working with residents, community organizations, private business, and non-profit service providers in the Palama/ Chinatown area to create a system to channel appropriate drug offenders from the neighborhood into the Drug Court program. Once in the program, in addition to undergoing a comprehensive and integrated range of judicial and treatment services, offenders will be required to make restitution to the community through work projects in the neighborhood.

Monies from the grant will also be used to develop a strategic plan for implementing, funding, and securing treatment and other resources for a drug court model statewide. Currently, an action plan for a Maui Drug Court is being developed.



Circuit Court Judge John Lim presides at the Fourth Drug Court graduation ceremony held in the Supreme Court Courtroom. As of December, 1998, the program has screened 738 offenders, accepted 270, and graduated 74, with 135 still active in the program. Of those clients who have graduated from the program, only nine have been rearrested.

New Judicial Appointments



Judge Artemio C. Baxa
June 12, 1998 - June 11, 2008

JUDGE ARTEMIO C. BAXA

Judge Artemio C. Baxa was appointed to the Circuit Court of the Second Judicial Circuit on June 12, 1998. Prior to his appointment to the Circuit Court, he was an associate with the law firm of Lowenthal and August in Wailuku, Maui, a deputy prosecuting attorney with the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Maui, and a deputy corporation counsel with the Department of Corporation Counsel, County of Maui. He received his law degree from the William S. Richardson School of Law, University of Hawai'i; a master of comparative law from the University of Chicago Law School; and a Bachelor of Laws from Ateneo de Manila University Law School. Judge Baxa has been licensed to practice law in Hawai'i since 1978.



Judge George Y. Kimura
May 22, 1998 - May 21, 2004

JUDGE GEORGE Y. KIMURA

Judge George Kimura was appointed to the District Court of the First Judicial Circuit on May 22, 1998. He served previously as a per diem judge for the First Judicial Circuit since 1984. Prior to his appointment to the District Court, he was a partner with the law firm of Kimura and Togioka and a partner with the law firm of Conklin and Kimura. Previously, he was a deputy prosecuting attorney and deputy corporation counsel, City and County of Honolulu, and law clerk to U.S. District Court Judge Martin Pence. Judge Kimura was licensed to practice law in Hawai'i in 1962. He received his law degree from Tulane Law School and bachelor's degree from Tulane University.

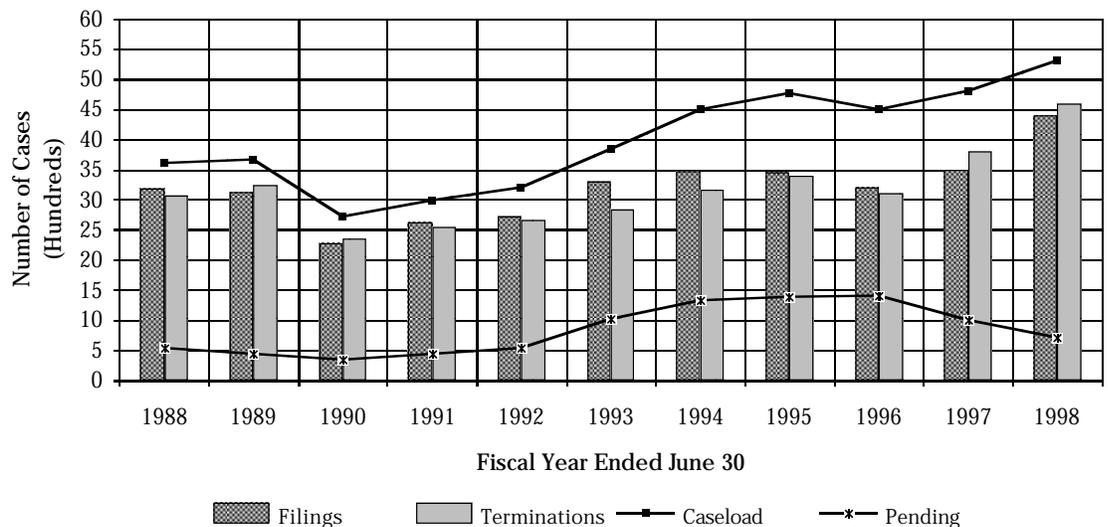
Courts of Appeal

The Judiciary's appellate level is composed of the Supreme Court and the Intermediate Court of Appeals (ICA). The Courts of Appeal hear appeals from all trial courts and specific state boards and agencies.

Generally, cases assigned to the Supreme Court involve the formulation and development of the law, while cases assigned to the ICA involve possible trial court error or the application of settled law. An ICA decision may be reviewed by the Supreme Court upon request by any party, though the Supreme Court may exercise its discretion in accepting the matter.

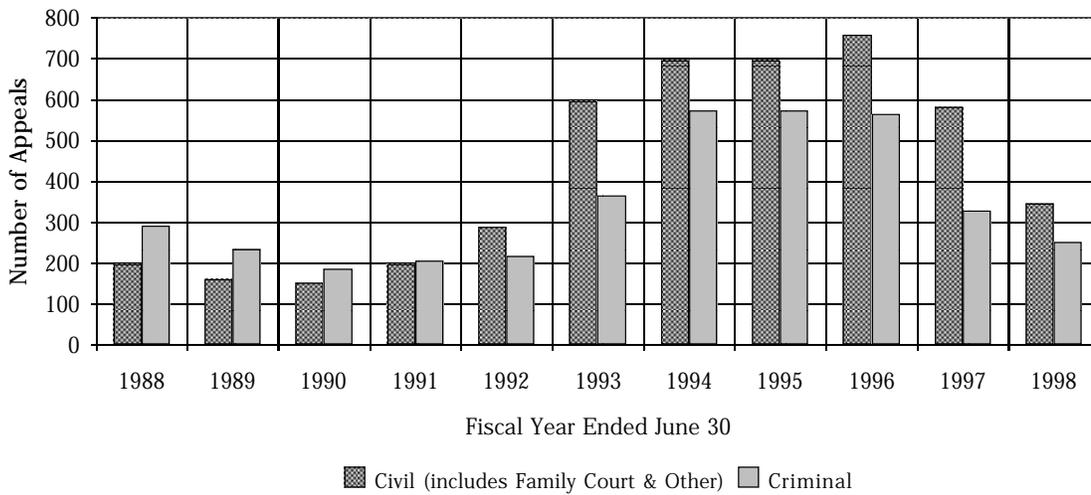
Members of the Supreme Court and Intermediate Court of Appeals are appointed to an initial ten-year term by the Governor. The Governor selects appointees from a list of no less than six names submitted by the Judicial Selection Commission. All appointments must be confirmed by the State Senate.

**Caseload Activity in the Courts of Appeal
Fiscal Year 1987-88 to Fiscal Year 1997-98**

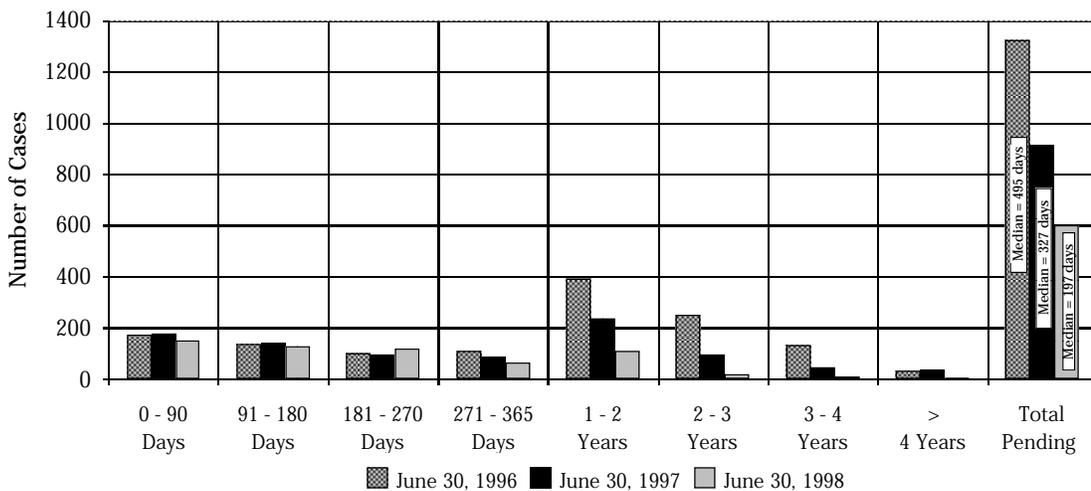


Courts of Appeal

**Courts of Appeal
Pending Cases: Civil and Criminal
Fiscal Year 1987-88 to Fiscal Year 1997-98**



**Combined SC & ICA – Appeals Pending
Civil (incl. Family Court & Agency Appeals) and Criminal Cases
June 30, 1996 vs. June 30, 1997 vs. June 30, 1998**



Supreme Court

STRATEGIC MISSION

The mission of the Supreme Court is to provide timely disposition of cases, including resolution of particular disputes and explication of applicable law; to license and discipline attorneys; to discipline judges; and to make rules of procedure for all Hawai'i courts.

COURT DESCRIPTION

The Supreme Court of Hawai'i is the State's highest court. Its decisions are binding on all other Hawai'i courts.

In Hawai'i, the primary mission of the Supreme Court is to review the decisions of the lower courts in which appeals have been allowed. The cases that are reviewed on appeals have been initiated in either a trial court or agency.

In addition to its appellate functions of examining results reached in lower courts and of redefining and developing the body of state law, the Supreme Court is also responsible for the formulation of court rules, the licensing and disciplining of attorneys, and the determination of judicial fitness.

In Hawai'i, the Chief Justice is also responsible for the administration of all courts in the state and appoints a director of the Administrative Office of the Courts to manage the non-judicial aspects of court administration.

JUSTICES AND THEIR TERMS

CHIEF JUSTICE RONALD T.Y. MOON
March 31, 1993 - March 30, 2003

ASSOCIATE JUSTICE ROBERT G. KLEIN
March 31, 1992 - March 30, 2002

ASSOCIATE JUSTICE STEVEN H. LEVINSON
April 7, 1992 - April 6, 2002

ASSOCIATE JUSTICE PAULA A. NAKAYAMA
April 22, 1993 - April 21, 2003

ASSOCIATE JUSTICE MARIO R. RAMIL
May 13, 1993 - May 12, 2003



Hawai'i Supreme Court Chief Justice Ronald Moon (left) poses with U.S. Supreme Court Associate Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg during her visit to Honolulu. Justice Ginsberg spoke on the subject of Judicial Independence at a special presentation in the Hawai'i Supreme Court Courtroom.

Intermediate Court of Appeals

STRATEGIC MISSION

The mission of the Intermediate Court of Appeals is to provide timely disposition of appeals from trial courts and state agencies, including the resolution of the particular dispute and explication of the law for the benefit of the litigants, the bar, and the public.

COURT DESCRIPTION

The second highest court in the state, the Intermediate Court of Appeals (ICA) shares concurrent jurisdiction with the Supreme Court in reviewing legal matters brought before the Courts of Appeal. Usually the ICA reviews trial court decisions for errors while the Supreme Court reviews matters involving the formulation of the law. The ICA has the authority to reverse, remand, modify, or affirm decisions of the trial courts.

JUDGES AND THEIR TERMS

CHIEF JUDGE JAMES S. BURNS
May 14, 1992 - May 13, 2002

ASSOCIATE JUDGE CORINNE K. A. WATANABE
May 11, 1992 - May 10, 2002

ASSOCIATE JUDGE SIMEON R. ACOBA, JR.
May 26, 1994 - May 25, 2004

ASSOCIATE JUDGE WALTER S. KIRIMITSU
June 30, 1995 - June 29, 2005



The Intermediate Court of Appeals moved to a new location in 1998. The Judges and staff of the ICA are now located on the recently-refurbished second floor of the Kapuaiwa Building on O'ahu.

Land Court

DESCRIPTION

The Land Court is a statewide court of record which has exclusive jurisdiction of all applications for the registration of title to land and easements or rights in land held and possessed in fee simple within the state. It has the power to hear and determine all questions arising upon applications as they come before it under Chapter 501 of the Hawai'i Revised Statutes, subject to the rights of appeal.

Tax Appeal Court

DESCRIPTION

The Tax Appeal Court is a statewide court with jurisdiction over disputes concerning property, excise, liquor, income and insurance taxes.

The Tax Appeal Court is located in Honolulu and convenes in the other circuits (Hawai'i, Maui and Kaua'i) at least once per year to hear disputes concerning real property taxes.

Trial Courts

Hawaii's trial level is comprised of Circuit Courts and District Courts. Family Courts are included in the Circuit Courts. Hawaii's trial courts function in four judicial circuits that correspond approximately to the geographical areas served by the counties.

The First Judicial Circuit serves the City and County of Honolulu.

The Second Judicial Circuit serves the County of Maui, which includes the islands of Maui, Moloka'i (including the settlement of Kalawao), and Lana'i.

The Third Judicial Circuit, divided into the districts of Hilo and Kona, administers the County of Hawaii.

The Fourth Judicial Circuit is no longer used as a circuit designation. The Third and Fourth Circuits merged in 1943.

The Fifth Judicial Circuit serves the County of Kaua'i, which includes the islands of Kaua'i and Ni'ihau.

Circuit Courts

STRATEGIC MISSION

The mission of the Circuit Court is to expeditiously and fairly adjudicate or resolve all matters within its jurisdiction in accordance with law.

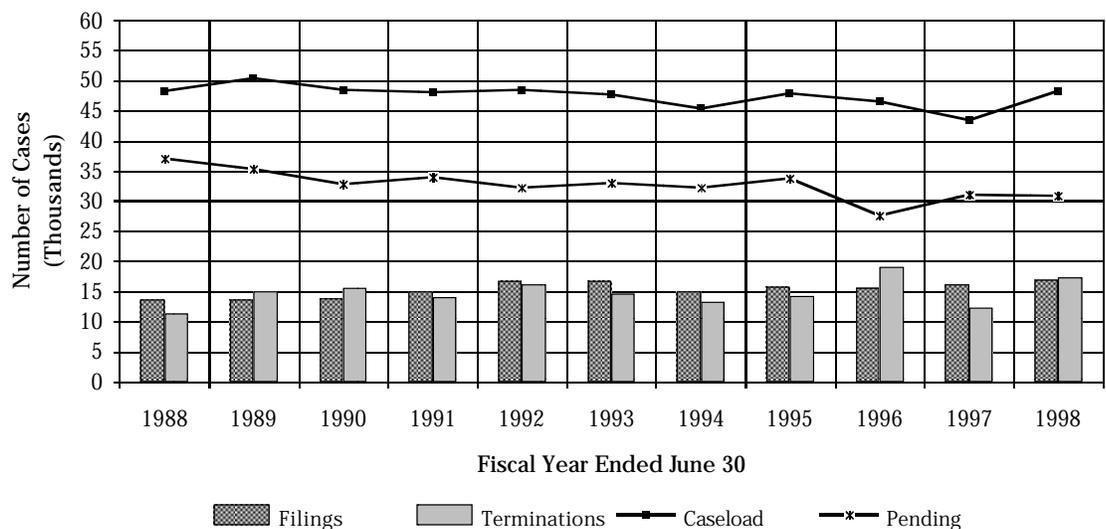
DESCRIPTION

All jury trials are held in the Circuit Courts, which have general jurisdiction in civil and criminal cases. They also have exclusive jurisdiction in probate, guardianship and criminal felony cases, as well as civil cases where the contested amount exceeds \$20,000.

Circuit Courts share concurrent jurisdiction with District Courts in civil non-jury cases that specify amounts between \$10,000-\$20,000. Additional cases dispensed by the Circuit Courts include mechanics' liens, and misdemeanor violations that are transferred from the District Courts for jury trials.

Circuit Court judges are appointed to ten-year terms by the Governor from a list of at least six nominees provided by the Judicial Selection Commission. The nominees are subject to the consent of the State Senate.

**Caseload Activity in the Circuit Courts Proper
Fiscal Year 1987-88 to Fiscal Year 1997-98**



*Judges and
their Terms*

*Circuit Court
Judges*

FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

ELWIN P. AHU, 1ST DIVISION
April 11, 1997 - April 10, 2007

KEVIN S.C. CHANG, 2ND DIVISION
April 30, 1993 - April 29, 2003

VICTORIA S. MARKS, 3RD DIVISION
ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE, CRIMINAL DIVISION
May 26, 1994 - May 25, 2004

GAIL C. NAKATANI, 4TH DIVISION
May 11, 1992 - May 10, 2002

BAMBI E. WEIL, 5TH DIVISION
April 30, 1993 - April 29, 2003

WENDELL K. HUDDY, 6TH DIVISION
April 7, 1990 - April 6, 2000

JOHN S.W. LIM, 7TH DIVISION
May 25, 1995 - May 24, 2005

RICHARD K. PERKINS, 8TH DIVISION
May 6, 1994 - May 5, 2004

VIRGINIA L. CRANDALL, 9TH DIVISION
ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE, CIVIL DIVISION
April 1, 1991 - March 31, 2001

WILFRED K. WATANABE, 10TH DIVISION
April 30, 1995 - April 29, 2005

MELVIN K. SOONG, 11TH DIVISION
May 11, 1990 - May 10, 2000

SANDRA ARLENE SIMMS, 12TH DIVISION
May 26, 1994 - May 25, 2004

DEXTER DEL ROSARIO, 13TH DIVISION
April 15, 1994 - April 14, 2004

JAMES R. AIONA, JR., 14TH DIVISION
April 30, 1993 - April 29, 2003

KAREN N. BLONDIN, 15TH DIVISION
May 11, 1992 - May 10, 2002

MARIE N. MILKS, 16TH DIVISION
March 16, 1994 - March 15, 2004

HERBERT K. SHIMABUKURO, 17TH DIVISION
May 24, 1991 - May 23, 2001

FRANCES Q.F. WONG, 18TH DIVISION
May 11, 1992 - May 10, 2002

MICHAEL A. TOWN, 19TH DIVISION
April 30, 1993 - April 29, 2003

COLLEEN K. HIRAI, 20TH DIVISION
May 6, 1994 - May 5, 2004

SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

SHACKLEY F. RAFFETTO, 1ST DIVISION
ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE, SENIOR JUDGE, FAMILY COURT
June 9, 1994 - June 8, 2004

E. JOHN MCCONNELL, JR., 2ND DIVISION
Retired May 1, 1998

ARTEMIO C. BAXA, 2ND DIVISION
June 12, 1998 - June 11, 2008

BOYD P. MOSSMAN, 3RD DIVISION
March 29, 1994 - March 28, 2004

THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

GREG K. NAKAMURA, 1ST DIVISION
April 18, 1994 - April 17, 2004

RIKI MAY AMANO, 2ND DIVISION
April 12, 1993 - April 11, 2003

RONALD IBARRA, 3RD DIVISION
ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE, SENIOR JUDGE, FAMILY COURT
May 10, 1989 - May 9, 1999

FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

GEORGE M. MASUOKA
ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE, SENIOR JUDGE, FAMILY COURT
July 8, 1998 - July 7, 2008

Family Courts

STRATEGIC MISSION

The mission of the Family Court is to provide a fair, speedy, economical, and accessible forum for the resolution of matters involving families and children.

DESCRIPTION

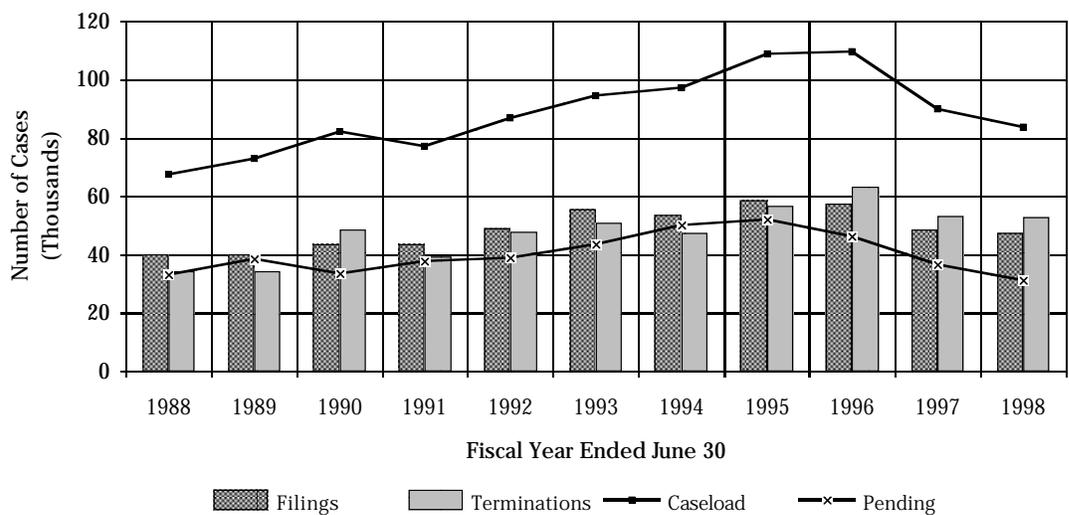
The Family Courts were established by statute in 1965 to deal with virtually all legal problems impinging on Hawaii's families and children.

The Family Court hears all legal matters confronting children, such as delinquency, waiver, status offenses, abuse and neglect, termination of parental rights, adoption, guardianships, and detention. The Family

Court also hears traditional domestic relations cases, including divorce, nonsupport, paternity, uniform child custody jurisdiction cases, and miscellaneous custody matters.

District Family Court judges are appointed to six-year terms by the Chief Justice from a list of at least six names submitted for each opening by the Judicial Selection Commission, subject to confirmation by the State Senate.

**Caseload Activity in the Family Courts
Fiscal Year 1987-88 to Fiscal Year 1997-98**



*Judges and
their Terms*

*Family Court
Judges*

FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

DAN T. KOCHI, 21ST DIVISION
SENIOR JUDGE, FAMILY COURT
April 15, 1994 - April 14, 2004

SABRINA S. MCKENNA, 22ND DIVISION
June 30, 1995 - June 29, 2005

R. MARK BROWNING
June 6, 1997 - June 5, 2003

JOHN C. BRYANT, JR.
October 22, 1993 - October 21, 1999

DARRYL Y.C. CHOY
January 4, 1994 - January 3, 2000

KENNETH E. ENRIGHT
February 28, 1997 - February 27, 2003

LINDA K.C. LUKE
December 29, 1998 - December 28, 2004

KAREN M. RADIUS
December 9, 1994 - December 8, 2000

ALLENE R. SUEMORI
March 31, 1993 - March 30, 1999

BODE AMILALE UALE
October 27, 1998 - October 26, 2004

DIANA L. WARRINGTON
November 3, 1995 - November 2, 2001

SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

DOUGLAS SCOTT MCNISH
October 17, 1996 - October 16, 2002

ERIC G. ROMANCHAK
October 29, 1994 - October 28, 2000

THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

BEN H. GADDIS
May 17, 1995 - May 16, 2001

VICTOR M. COX
August 12, 1994 - August 11, 2000

District Courts

STRATEGIC MISSION

The mission of the District Court is to serve the people of Hawai'i through the fair and efficient adjudication and resolution of cases and controversies brought before it.

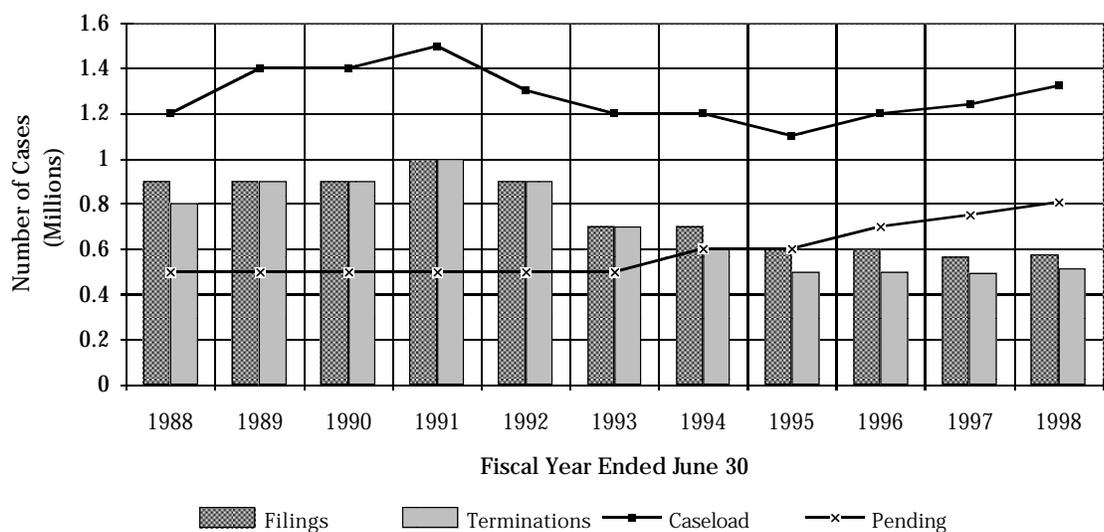
DESCRIPTION

The District Courts have exclusive jurisdiction over traffic infractions, summary possession or ejection proceedings (landlord-tenant), regardless of the amount of the claim, and non-jury trial civil cases where the relief sought is under \$10,000. The District Courts also have jurisdiction over civil cases where the debt, amount, damages, or

value of the property claimed does not exceed \$20,000, or where the remedy sought is specific performance valued under \$20,000, criminal offenses punishable by fine or by imprisonment not exceeding one year, cases arising from violations of a county ordinance, and petitions for restraining orders for relief from and for injunctions against harassment. There are no jury trials in the District Courts, except in driving under the influence of intoxicating liquor cases.

District Court judges are appointed to six-year terms by the Chief Justice from a list of at least six names submitted for each opening by the Judicial Selection Commission, subject to confirmation by the State Senate.

**Caseload Activity in the District Courts
Fiscal Year 1987-88 to Fiscal Year 1997-98**



*Judges and
their Terms*

*District Court
Judges*

FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

MARCIA J. WALDORF, 1ST DISTRICT
ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE
January 3, 1997 - January 2, 2003

TENNEY Z. TONGG, 2ND DISTRICT
September 18, 1996 - September 17, 2002

FA'AUUGA TO'OTO'O, 3RD DISTRICT
December 9, 1994 - December 8, 2000

RUSSEL S. NAGATA, 4th DISTRICT
October 5, 1998 - October 4, 2004

RHONDA A. NISHIMURA, 5TH DISTRICT
June 6, 1997 - June 5, 2003

DAVID L. FONG, 6TH DISTRICT
November 4, 1996 - November 3, 2002

I. NORMAN LEWIS, 7TH DISTRICT
August 1, 1998 - July 31, 2004

RUSSELL BLAIR, II, 8TH DISTRICT
November 3, 1995 - November 2, 2001

STEVEN M. NAKASHIMA, 9TH DISTRICT
December 9, 1994 - December 8, 2000

JAMES H. DANNENBERG, 10TH DISTRICT
Retired May 12, 1998

GEORGE Y. KIMURA, 10TH DISTRICT
May 22, 1998 - May 21, 2004

LESLIE A. HAYASHI, 11TH DISTRICT
November 5, 1996 - November 4, 2002

KAREN S.S. AHN, 12TH DISTRICT
June 3, 1994 - June 2, 2000

GERALD H. KIBE, 13TH DISTRICT
January 6, 1995 - January 5, 2001

COLETTE Y. GARIBALDI, 14TH DISTRICT
February 28, 1997 - February 27, 2003

SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

RHONDA I.L. LOO, 1ST DISTRICT
May 1, 1997 - April 30, 2003

DOUGLAS H. IGE, 2ND DISTRICT
June 28, 1996 - June 27, 2002

YOSHIO SHIGEZAWA, 3RD DISTRICT
ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE
February 28, 1998 - February 27, 2004

THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

JEFFREY CHOI, 1ST DISTRICT
ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE
September 1, 1993 - August 31, 1999

JOSEPH P. FLORENDO, JR., 2ND DISTRICT
November 3, 1998 - November 2, 2004

SANDRA E.P. SCHUTTE, 3RD DISTRICT
June 2, 1997 - June 1, 2003

FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

CLIFFORD L. NAKEA
June 27, 1998 - June 26, 2004

GERALD S. MATSUNAGA
ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE
March 23, 1996 - March 22, 2002

*Per Diem
Judges*

**DISTRICT COURT OF THE
FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT**

Ronald G.S. Au
John Campbell, Jr.
Marilyn Carlsmith (Family Court)
Gale L.F. Ching (Family Court)
Rodney K.F. Ching (Family Court)
Loralyn Cramer (Family Court)
Paula Devens-Matayoshi
Philip Doi
Peter V.N. Esser
Peter C.K. Fong (Family Court)
Hilary Benson Gangnes
David J. Gierlach
Walter H. Ikeda
Christine E. Kuriyama (Family Court)
Lenore K.J.H. Lee
David W. Lo
Wilson M.N. Loo (Family Court)
Michael A. Marr
Christopher P. McKenzie
Patricia Ann McManaman
Paul T. Murakami (Family Court)
William J. Nagle III (Family Court)
W. Patrick O'Connor
Lillian Ramirez-Uy (Family Court)
Barbara P. Richardson
Yvonne R. Shinmura
Timothy D. Woo, Jr.
Vernon Y.T. Woo (Family Court)

**DISTRICT COURT OF THE
SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT**

Joel E. August (Family Court)
Ruby A. Hamili
Mary Blaine Johnston (Family Court)
Barclay E. MacDonald (Family Court)
John T. Vail (Family Court)
Richard E. Jr. Icenogle (Family)

**DISTRICT COURT OF THE
THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT**

K. Napua Brown (Family Court)
William S. Chillingworth (Family Court)
Arne T. Henricks (Family Court)
Colin L. Love (Family Court)
George S. Yuda (Family Court)

**DISTRICT COURT OF THE
FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT**

Max W.J. Graham, Jr. (Family Court)
Walton D.Y. Hong (Family Court)
Joseph N. Kobayashi (Family Court)
Frank D. Rothschild (Family Court)

Support Services

STRATEGIC MISSION

The mission of the Office of the Administrative Director of the Courts is to promote the administration of justice in Hawai'i by providing professional, responsive administrative support to the Chief Justice, the courts and Judiciary programs and to expedite, facilitate and enhance the mission of the Judiciary.

ADMINISTRATION

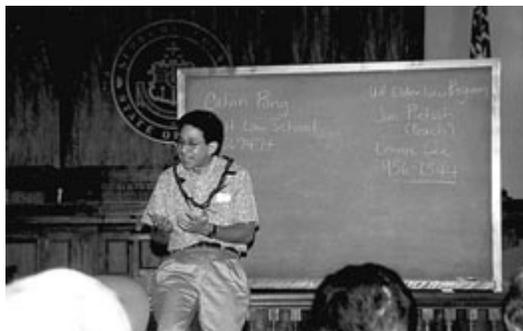
The Office of the Administrative Director of the Courts has the primary responsibility for the daily operations of the court system. The Administrative Director is appointed by the Chief Justice with the approval of the Supreme Court, and is assisted by the Deputy Administrative Director.

The Administrative Director also has the responsibility of coordinating the Judiciary's annual presentations to the Legislature, both for the Judiciary budget and for changes in laws relating to the operation of the judicial system.

Administrative programs include: Affirmative Action/EEO, Budget and Statistics, Fiscal and Support Services, Equality and Access to the Courts, Internal Audit, Judicial Education and Resource Development, Personnel, Planning and Evaluation, Public Affairs, Staff Attorney, Telecommunications and Information Services, and Volunteers in Public Service to the Courts. Other program components which carry statewide operational responsibilities are the Administrative Driver's License Revocation Office, Center for Alternative Dispute Resolution, Children's Advocacy Center, Judiciary History Center, and the Law Library.



Employees of the Administration Fiscal Services Branch are recognized for their outstanding public service as recipients of the Judiciary's Group Certificate of Commendation Award. Each year the Judiciary recognizes employees and groups of employees for superior contribution and commitment to public service.



One way the Judiciary provides the public with information about the court and legal systems is through its monthly "Lunch and Learn the Law" program.

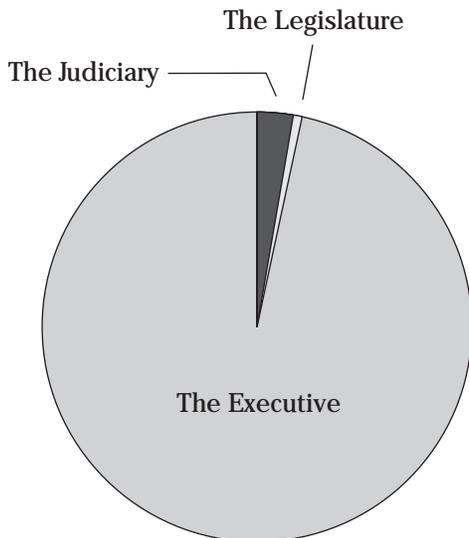
Financial Resources

Appropriations for the Hawai'i State Judiciary are made by the Legislature on a statewide basis, with each fiscal year beginning July 1 and ending June 30. Both the operating and capital improvements budgets of the Judiciary are legislatively determined every biennium with operating monies allocated from the State General and Special Funds and capital improvement monies from the State Capital Project Fund.

Combined, the State General and the Capital Project Funds represent over 98 percent of the funding source of all Judiciary expenditures. The Legislature appropriated \$92,571,603 from the State General Fund for operations during the current fiscal year, and \$10,590,000 was appropriated to the Judiciary from the State Capital Project Fund. Other operating monies come from federal funds, trust funds, and special revenue funds such as the Driver Education and Training Fund.

Financial Resources

THE JUDICIARY FISCAL YEARS 1998-2001 BUDGET SUMMARY				
PROGRAM	FY 1998	FY 1999	Biennium Budget Request	
	Actual Expenditures	Allocations	FY 2000	FY 2001
JUD 101 - COURTS OF APPEAL				
General Fund	4,588,293	4,538,677	4,681,671	4,702,221
Revolving Fund	61,273	75,000	75,000	75,000
JUD 111 - CIRCUIT COURTS				
General Fund	25,645,292	25,831,515	26,332,035	26,391,379
JUD 112 - FAMILY COURTS				
General Fund	25,809,602	25,880,217	26,665,025	26,858,748
Special Fund	82,749	386,575	386,575	386,575
JUD 121 - DISTRICT COURTS				
General Fund	17,424,834	17,736,508	18,250,563	18,165,138
Special Fund	1,115,219	1,488,048	1,643,033	1,617,033
JUD 201 - ADMIN DIR SVCS				
General Fund	15,231,081	15,490,329	16,213,649	16,041,286
Special Fund	2,895	1,200,000	2,080,102	2,188,937
TOTALS				
General Fund	88,699,102	89,477,246	92,142,943	92,158,772
Special Fund	1,200,863	3,074,623	4,109,710	4,192,545
Revolving Fund	61,273	75,000	75,000	75,000



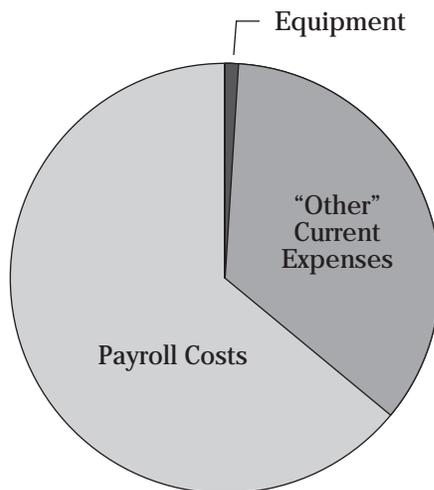
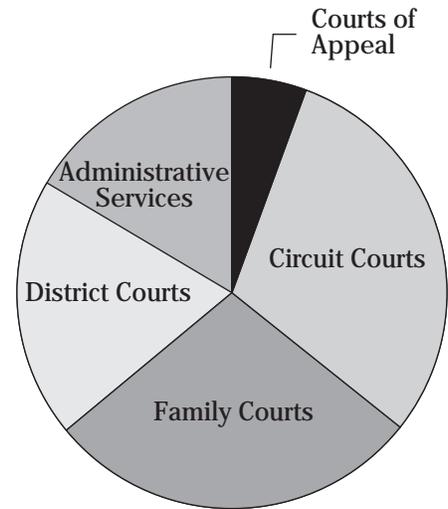
TOTAL STATE GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS
FROM STATE GENERAL FUND
FISCAL YEAR 1997-98

The Judiciary	2.75%	\$ 92,571,603
The Legislature	.70%	23,510,030
The Executive	96.55%	3,245,942,665
Total		\$3,362,024,298

Financial Resources

STATE GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATIONS
BY COURT ELEMENT
FISCAL YEAR 1997-98

Courts of Appeal	5.2%	\$ 4.8 million
Circuit Courts	29.2%	27.0 million
Family Courts	29.1%	26.9 million
District Courts	19.7%	18.3 million
Administrative Services	16.8%	15.6 million
<hr/>		
Total		\$ 92.6 million



STATE GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATIONS
BY COST CATEGORY
FISCAL YEAR 1997-98

Equipment	1%	\$.9 million
"Other" Current Expenses	32%	29.5 million
Payroll Costs	67%	62.2 million
<hr/>		
Total		\$ 92.6 million

List of Available Judiciary Publications

THE FOLLOWING PUBLICATIONS ARE AVAILABLE
THROUGH:

The Judiciary Public Affairs Office
Ali'iolani Hale
417 South King Street
Room 206-C
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Internet site: www.state.hi.us/jud

A Child's Guide To Law
Being 18 - Local Style
Children and Divorce
Children's Advocacy Center of O'ahu
Commission on Judicial Conduct
Community Service Sentencing Program
Disciplinary Complaints Against Lawyers
Foster Parenting "An Investment in Hawai'i's
Youth"
Going to Small Claims Court? What Do You
Know About Mediation?
Judiciary History Center
Landlord and Tenant Law in the State of
Hawai'i
Lawline
Mediation/Restitution Program
Selecting a Mediator - A Guide for the Public
Prepared by the Hawai'i State Judiciary
Center for Alternative Dispute Resolution
Speakers Bureau Program
The Judiciary State of Hawai'i Annual Report
(July 1, 1997-June 30, 1998)
The Judiciary State of Hawai'i Statistical
Supplement (July 1, 1997-June 30, 1998)
You Are Still Parents - Your Responsibility As
Parents After A Divorce
Your Guide to Small Claims Court